

Some MIT Stem Cell Scientists Helped by End of Federal Ban

By Omar Abudayyeh
STAFF REPORTER

President Obama's change to federal stem cell policy, providing researchers with access to additional lines of stem cells under federal money, eliminates barriers faced to research by some MIT scientists.

"This will definitely put away all administrative problems," said Pro-

fessor Rudolf Jaenisch (pronounced YAIN-ish), who heads a lab which conducts stem cell research at the Whitehead Institute. "We had two different accounting systems. This all goes away now."

Previous to President Obama's executive order on March 9, 2009, MIT scientists were only permitted to use federal funding to work with

a very limited number of stem cell lines which President Bush designated in 2001. MIT scientists will now be able to utilize federal funding to research stem cells from a much wider variety of stem cell lines, which should theoretically give researchers a better understanding of stem cells and how to apply them.

"A lot of the approved cell lines have issues," said Professor Laurie A. Boyer, who runs a laboratory focused on stem cells, referring to the lines President Bush had designated. So much has been learned from stem cell lines outside of President Bush's limitations that it would be very beneficial for scientists to study them, Boyer said.

Because these stem cell lines will now be available for use in federally funded labs, laboratories across the country will no longer have to keep federally and privately funded research separate.

Researchers had to mark equipment purchased with federal funding so as to not accidentally use

Stem Cells, Page 10



NOAH SPIES—THE TECH

Tenzin Lungjangwa pipets growth media in the Whitehead Human Stem Cell Facility, which was established entirely with private funding to circumvent President Bush's ban on federal funding for the use of all but a small fraction of human stem cell lines.

MIT Press Will Focus More on E-Books; Press Saw Ten Percent Drop in Book Sales

By Robert McQueen
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As the transition from print publication to digital publication of scholarly work becomes more prevalent, university presses are being forced to adapt their business plans to appeal to the new electronic demand: MIT Press is no exception.

MIT Press will restrict its budget by focusing less on printing books and more on digital publication.

Earlier this month, MIT Press launched its new e-books store, <http://mitpress-ebooks.mit.edu/>, which allows its users to purchase

recent, full-text publications including scholarly research, journals, and general interest books. MIT Press has also announced the release of the "International Journal of Learning and Media," the organization's first electronic-only journal.

Last month, the Association of Research Libraries met with other national organizations to discuss ways to improve the dissemination of scholarly work. As a result of the meeting, they issued a "call to action" to urge universities to "ensure the broadest possible access" to faculty research and scholarship.

In today's soft economy, the e-book system has acted as a way out of financial shortcomings. According to Rebecca Schrader, Assistant Director of Finance of MIT Press, a large portion of the university

Digital Press, Page 9

Campus Police Officer Fired

MIT has fired one of the two officers responsible for "recycling" copies of *The Tech* on March 17, and the other officer remains suspended without pay, Vice President for Institute Affairs Kirk D. Kolenbrander announced yesterday.

Kolenbrander declined to comment on the difference in punishment. The Institute has not identified the two officers.

Kolenbrander would not specify the length of the suspension, other than to say it would be of "modest length."

The Campus Police union declined to comment, referring questions to their attorney, Alan J. McDonald. McDonald said "they're both good officers," but declined to comment on the termination.

Campus Police Chief John DiFava declined to comment, referring questions to Kolenbrander and the MIT News Office.

Kolenbrander said a decision regarding Joseph D'Amelio, the MIT police officer arrested for drug trafficking on March 14, is expected "in a matter of days." D'Amelio was suspended without pay after the arrest.

Police Review Panel membership chosen

Kolenbrander also announced that the Police Review Panel's membership has been chosen. It will consist of six members:

Robert C. Haas, Commissioner of the Cambridge Police
Costantino "Chris" Colombo, Dean for Student Life
Peter A. Diamond, Institute Professor
Dana G. Mead PhD '67, Chairman of the Corporation
R. Gregory Morgan, Vice President and General Counsel
Robert J. Silbey, Professor and former Dean of Science

The membership is not final; a few people may be added. The committee's charge is to "determine whether the MIT Police have policies, governance, and disciplinary systems to promote police practice at the highest level," Kolenbrander said.

—John A. Hawkinson

Alumna Gets Laughs In Ashdown Stand-Up

South-Asian Comedienne Reveals Secrets

By Florence Gallez

STAFF WRITER

March 15, 1:00 p.m. This may have been a lazy Sunday afternoon for many of us, but for Dhaya Lakshminarayanan '96

Feature

a tough time lay ahead: she was about to face and entertain a crowd of comedy connoisseurs and hardcore fans of the tricky art of stand-up in the soberly-styled Ashdown House Crafts Lounge — not everyone is up for a post-lunch laugh during digestion time on a Sunday.

Sitting behind me a young woman, herself a stand-up comedienne, was telling her friends how hard it is to make it in the business.

"This was actually a difficult show," Lakshminarayanan (pronounced LAKSH-min-ah RAY-ah-nan) told me in an interview after her performance for the 30 or so people who packed the sunlit lounge.

MIT Comedienne, Page 8

GSC Selects New Officers

By Annelies Abeel

On Wednesday, the Graduate Student Council elected officers for the 2009–2010 academic year. For the first time in three years, the elections were contested.

GSC officers are elected by the 69 voting members of the council; the voters include the departmental representatives for each graduate department, as well as GSC officers and committee chairs.

Three candidates wanted to lead the GSC this year, and Alex H. Chan G can call himself the new president. He defeated Charles A. Gammal G and Paul R. Monasterio G after convincing the council that he has both the experience and vision to lead.

Kevin McComber G was elected

GSC Prez, Page 9



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

This Tuesday, a farmer's market came to campus, selling fresh produce all afternoon in the East Campus courtyard. The service was made possible by the Undergraduate Association, The Division of Student Life, MIT Residential Life, and MIT Campus Dining. It will return every Tuesday.

In Short

¶ **Kent Kresa '59**, former CEO of Northrup Grumman and holder of three Aero/Astro degrees, was named interim chairman of General Motors this week by President Barack Obama's auto task force.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.

ARTS

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WORLD & NATION

Banks Get New Leeway In Valuing Their Assets

By Floyd Norris
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A once-obscure accounting rule that infuriated banks, who blamed it for worsening the financial crisis, was changed Thursday to give banks more discretion in reporting the value of mortgage securities.

The change seems likely to allow banks to report higher profits by assuming that the securities are worth more than anyone is now willing to pay for them. But critics objected that the change could further damage the credibility of financial institutions by enabling them to avoid recognizing losses from bad loans they have made.

Critics also said that since the rules were changed under heavy political pressure, the move compromised the independence of the organization that did it, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB.

During the financial crisis, the market prices of many securities, particularly those backed by subprime home mortgages, have plunged to fractions of their original prices. That has forced banks to report hundreds of billions of dollars in losses over the last year, because some of those securities must be reported at market value each three months, with the bank showing a profit or loss based on the change.

A House Divided Passes Budget Without GOP Votes

By Carl Hulse
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The House approved a \$3.6 trillion federal budget on Thursday with no Republican support, a sign of deep partisan tensions likely to color congressional efforts to enact the major policy initiatives sought by President Barack Obama.

The Senate was moving toward passing a similar \$3.5 trillion budget, solely on the strength of Democratic votes as well, after a day's laboring over amendments that did little to change a fiscal blueprint in keeping with Obama's ambitious agenda.

Democrats said the two budgets, which will have to be reconciled after a two-week congressional recess, cleared the way for health care, energy and education overhauls pushed by the new president. The Democrats said the budgets reversed what they portrayed as the failed economic approach of the Bush administration and Republican-led Congresses.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California said Democrats would like to find consensus with Republicans, but not at the expense of the infusion of federal money that the majority calls crucial in a time of economic distress.

Western Banks Face Big Losses On Chinese Real Estate

By David Barboza
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHANGHAI, CHINA

Back in the good old days — early 2007 — bankers from Merrill Lynch, Deutsche Bank and other financial giants placed their bets on Xu Jiayin, a real estate tycoon who was supposed to be China's next billionaire.

They lent his company \$400 million, encouraged him to acquire large tracts of land and in early 2008 promoted a proposed \$2.1 billion public stock offering by the company, the Evergrande Real Estate Group, in Hong Kong.

One year later, China's housing market has collapsed, Evergrande is mired in debt and the Wall Street bankers are facing huge losses because the company never sold stock to the public.

Now, analysts say, Evergrande has become a symbol of China's go-go era of investing, when international bankers, private equity dealmakers and hedge fund managers rushed here hoping to cash in on the world's biggest building boom.

Cambridge Biotech Firm Is Quietly Shutting Down

By Todd Wallack
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Another once-promising life sciences company has died.

Codon Devices Inc., a five-year-old Cambridge, Mass., biotech working on ways to synthesize DNA and other genetic material, is quietly shutting down.

A week ago, board members voted to close the doors after they failed to raise additional money, said a person affiliated with the company who did not want to be named. Flagship Ventures, one of Codon's investors, recently removed Codon's name from its list of portfolio companies, but declined to comment. No one responded to messages left on the company's voice mail, and its chief executive, Brian Baynes PhD '05, did not return phone calls or e-mails seeking comment, and no one came to the door at the company.

Codon is the latest in a string of small life sciences companies in the area to shut down in the past few months, as privately held firms find it increasingly difficult to raise money to develop products that are years away from generating profits.

At least two local companies filed

for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection this year — Dynogen Pharmaceuticals Inc. in Waltham and OmniSonic Medical Technologies Inc. of Wilmington — clearing the way for their liquidation. Cyberkinetics Neurotechnology Systems Inc. of Foxborough said it is winding down its operations, and Epitome Biosystems of Waltham shut down several months ago.

"This environment is unforgiving," said Keith Dionne PhD '90, chief executive of Surface Logix Inc., a Boston biotech trying to develop drugs to treat hypertension, metabolic diseases, and other afflictions. "This is a sharper knife than it has been in the past."

There are several reasons for the cash crunch. One is that few companies have been able to launch initial public offerings since the stock market meltdown, making it difficult for startups to raise money directly from the public. In addition, venture capitalists are reducing their investments in young companies, because it's hard to raise cash and also they need to divert money to sustain more mature companies that otherwise would have gone public by now.

Still, some companies have continued to raise money. For instance,

Surface Logix raised \$20 million in venture capital and loans in January, and BioVex Inc. of Woburn raised \$40 million last month, after canceling its plans for an IPO.

But Dionne said companies that haven't yet developed a key product to impress investors aren't having an easy time raising money, forcing some to undertake cost-cutting measures.

For example, Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. in Lexington eliminated 90 positions last month. And Osient Pharmaceuticals Corp. in Waltham cut 100 jobs in February.

And it's likely other companies will have to slash their operations or shut down altogether. Nationwide, about 120 publicly traded biotech companies have less than six months' cash on hand - nine times the number of firms that had limited reserves in 2007, according to the Biotechnology Industry Organization, a national trade organization.

But Codon's failure is especially notable because it attracted so many big-name investors, including Alloy Ventures, Flagship Ventures, Highland Capital Partners, and Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers. In total, the company raised at least \$31 million.

Early Alarm For Church On Abusers in The Clergy

By Laurie Goodstein
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The founder of a Roman Catholic religious order that ran retreat centers for troubled priests warned American bishops in forceful letters dating back to 1952 that pedophiles should be removed from the priesthood because they could not be cured.

The Rev. Gerald M.C. Fitzgerald, founder of the order, Servants of the Paraclete, delivered the same advice in person to Vatican officials in Rome in 1962 and to Pope Paul VI a year later, according to the letters, which were unsealed by a judge in the course of litigation against the church.

The documents contradict the most consistent defense given by bishops about the sexual abuse scandal: That they were unaware until recently that offenders could not

be rehabilitated and returned to the ministry.

Fitzgerald, who died in 1969, even made a \$5,000 down payment on a Caribbean island where he planned to build an isolated retreat to sequester priests who were sexual predators. His letters show he was driven by a desire to save the church from scandal, and to save laypeople from being victimized. He wrote to dozens of bishops, saying that he had learned through experience that most of the abusers were unrepentant, manipulative and dangerous. He called them "vipers."

"We are amazed," Fitzgerald wrote to a bishop in 1957, "to find how often a man who would be behind bars if he were not a priest is entrusted with the cura animarum," meaning, the care of souls.

His collected letters and his story were reported this week by

The National Catholic Reporter, an independent weekly publication. Fitzgerald's papers were unsealed by a judge in New Mexico in 2007 and are now becoming public in litigation, although some letters were public before now, said Helen Zukin, a lawyer with Kiesel, Boucher & Larson, a firm in Los Angeles. The letters were authenticated in depositions with Fitzgerald's successors.

The scandal, which began in the 1980s and reached a peak in 2002, revealed that for decades bishops had taken priests with histories of sexual abuse and reassigned them to parishes and schools where they abused new victims.

It was not until 2002 that the American bishops, meeting in Dallas, wrote a charter requiring bishops to remove from ministry priests with credible accusations against them.

WEATHER

April Showers, Rain, or Drizzle?

By Angela Zalucha
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Meteorologists have many words for water falling from the sky. The most general term is precipitation, which includes liquid and solid water.

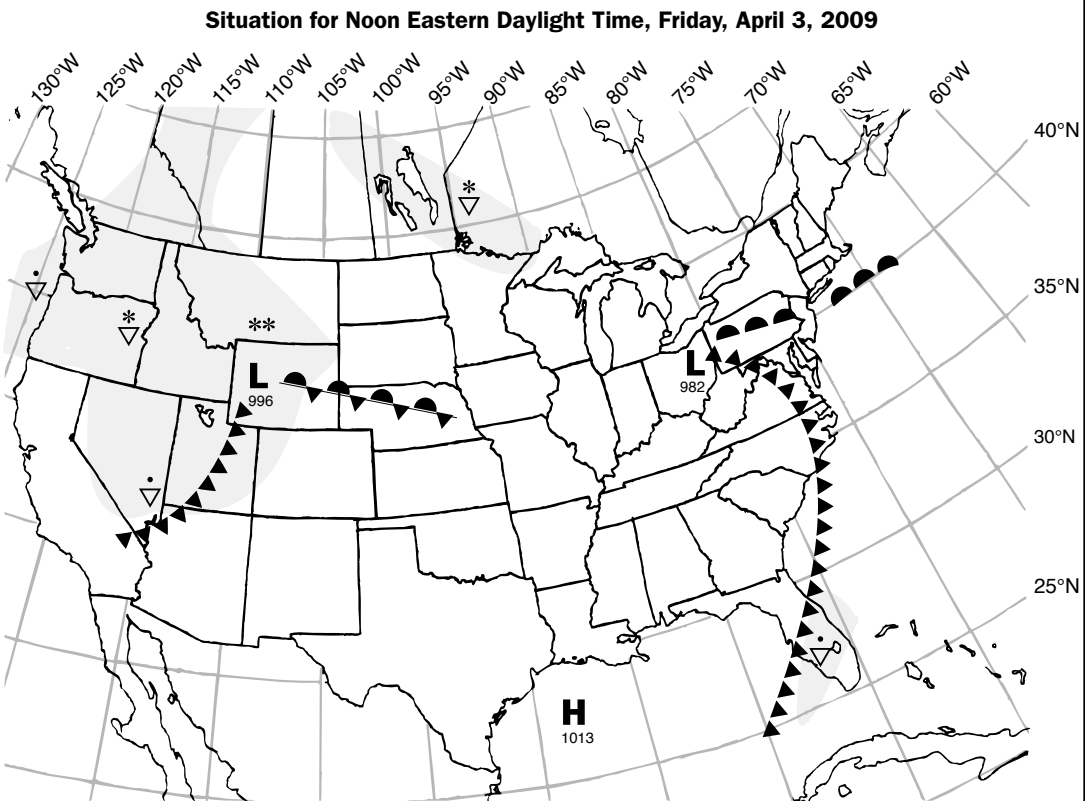
Rain is defined as liquid water drops which have diameters greater than 0.5 mm. Drizzle consists of droplets smaller than this diameter that fall to the ground. Fog, in the meantime, consists of droplets that stay suspended in the air. Both rain and drizzle may be further characterized as light, moderate, or heavy based on the rate of precipitation. Yet another word, showers, refers to rain which starts and stops or changes intensity suddenly.

Rain will persist throughout the day today with a chance of showers tonight and tomorrow. We finally see a break from the clouds on Sunday.

Extended Forecast
Today: Rain. High 53°F (12°C).
Tonight: Chance of showers, Low 45°F (7°C).
Tomorrow: Chance of showers, High 53°F (12°C).
Sunday: Sunny and breezy, High 60°F (16°C).

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain	Thunderstorm
Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	
		Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech



19-Count Indictment Alleges Corrupt Blagojevich ‘Enterprise’

By **Monica Davey and Susan Saulny**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO

Rod R. Blagojevich, the ousted Democratic governor of Illinois, used his chance to fill the Senate seat vacated by Barack Obama as one more money-making plan in what federal prosecutors described Thursday as “The Blagojevich Enterprise.”

In a 19-count indictment, prosecutors said the “primary purpose of the Blagojevich Enterprise was to exercise and preserve power over the government of the state of Illinois for the financial and political benefit of” Blagojevich, his family and his friends.

The indictment was 75 pages long and had been anticipated for nearly

four months since his first arrest.

Blagojevich, whose political career has unraveled since his arrest, was charged with 16 felonies, including racketeering conspiracy, wire fraud, extortion conspiracy, attempted extortion and making false statements to federal agents. Five of his closest advisers — including his brother, one of his top fundraisers and two of his former chiefs of staff — were also charged with crimes.

Blagojevich, who was believed to be vacationing with his family near Walt Disney World in Florida when the indictment was announced here late Thursday, issued a statement through his publicist.

“I’m saddened and hurt, but I am not surprised by the indictment,” he said. “I am innocent. I now will fight

in the courts to clear my name.”

The indictment lays out a broad pattern of corruption spanning from before Blagojevich was first elected governor in 2002 and up until the day of his arrest, Dec. 9, prosecutors said. He used his official position, the indictment suggested, to seek financial gain in nearly every element of government work, from picking members of state commissions to signing legislation.

Blagojevich sought a return on deals to grant money to a hospital, to approve legislation helpful to race-track owners, to pick a particular candidate to fill the Senate seat and, according to the indictment, from a U.S. representative who was pressing for a \$2 million grant for a publicly supported school.

Judge Says Some at Bagram Can Challenge Their Detention

By **Charlie Savage**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A federal judge ruled Thursday that some prisoners held by the U.S. military in Afghanistan have a right to challenge their imprisonment, dealing a blow to government efforts to detain terrorism suspects for extended periods without court oversight.

In a 53-page ruling that rejected a claim of unfettered executive power advanced by both the Bush and Obama administrations, U.S. District Judge John D. Bates said that three detainees at the U.S. Bagram Air Base have the same legal rights that the Supreme Court last year granted to prisoners held at the American naval base

in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The three detainees — two Yemenis and a Tunisian — say they were captured outside Afghanistan, taken to Bagram, and have been imprisoned for more than six years without trials. Arguing that they were not enemy combatants, the detainees want a civilian judge to review the evidence against them and order their release, under the constitutional right of habeas corpus.

The importance of Bagram as a holding facility for suspected terrorists captured outside of Afghanistan and Iraq has increased under the Obama administration, which prohibited the CIA from using its secret prisons for long-term detention and ordered the military prison at Guantanamo closed

within a year. The administration had sought to preserve Bagram as a haven where it can detain terrorism suspects beyond the reach of American courts, telling Bates in February that it agreed with the Bush administration’s view that courts have no jurisdiction over detainees there.

Bates, appointed by President George W. Bush in 2001, was not convinced. He said transferring captured terrorism suspects to the prison inside Afghanistan and claiming they were beyond the jurisdiction of American courts “resurrects the same specter of limitless executive power the Supreme Court sought to guard against” in its 2008 ruling that Guantanamo prisoners have a right to habeas corpus.

Free tickets for MIT students!

Made possible by the Council for the Arts at MIT

Emmanuel Music: J.S. Bach Motets

Saturday, April 25 at 8pm at Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Streeet, Boston

7pm: Pre-concert talk by Acting Artistic Director, John Harbison

The Chorus of Emmanuel Music, Michael Beattie, conductor

Radius Ensemble

Saturday, May 2 at 8pm in Killian Hall, 14W-111

Wilder	Moosacaglia for winds
Ran	Mirage for amplified flutes, clarinet, strings, and piano
Debussy	Sonata for flute, viola, and harp
Shostakovich	Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67

Boston Chamber Music Society: Haydn, Beethoven & Brahms

Sunday, May 17 at 7:30pm at Sanders Theater, Harvard University

Fenwick Smith, flute	Wilhelmina Smith, cello
Ida Levin, violin	Mihae Lee, piano
Marcus Thompson, viola	

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Lisa Bielawa	In medias res, Concerto for Orchestra
Geoffrey Gordon	Shock Diamonds
Thomas Oboe Lee	“...bisbigliando...”
Eric Moe	Concerto for Trapset
Lewis Spratlan	A Summer’s Day

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for

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guidelines

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The annual prize is awarded to a student or student group who has applied technology in an innovative way to improve learning and community at MIT. All currently enrolled MIT undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply. All members of the MIT community, including faculty, students, staff, and alumni, may nominate for the award.

HOLY WEEK

‘MAUNDY WEDNESDAY’

agape meal and footwashing, ending in silent vigil in the Chapel,
Wednesday, April 8, 5:15 pm in
W11 Main Dining Room



GOOD FRIDAY

Solemn remembrance of our Lord’s death,
Friday, April 10, noon to 1 pm in
the MIT Chapel



EASTER VIGIL

A glorious celebration to mark the heart of the Christian year, with much singing, sunrise, a baptism, and breakfast following,
4:30 AM (yes, AM...) at the
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Corrections

The March 20 review of *Duplicity* incorrectly called the film’s director, Tony Gilroy, the director of the *Bourne* films. Gilroy is actually one of the *Bourne* films’ writers. The same article misspelled the lead actor’s last name twice. His name is Clive Owen, not “Owens.”

Because of an editing error, the photo of MIT Campus Police officer Joseph D’Amelio on the front page of the Tuesday, March 17 issue was incorrectly scaled about ten percent too wide.

A March 13 article on the Undergraduate Association Dining Proposal Committee misspelled Dean for Student Life Costantino Colombo’s name. His first name is Costantino, not Constantino.

A feature in the February 20 issue of *The Tech* on Sixth Sense, a wearable interface from the Media Lab, misquoted Pranav K. Mistry G. The original article included the term “head mountain projector” twice in a quote from Mistry. Mistry actually said “head mounted projector.”

The Tech’s April 15, 2008 editorial about the Undergraduate Association presidential election candidates used the wrong first name for one of the presidential candidates. It is Jason C. Forte '09, not Justin.

Fusion Power Could Be the Answer *Shouldn't We Get On Board ITER?*

Ethan Solomon

Sometimes, it felt like the Bush administration believed blood-letting could purge a man of all evil humors and the universe revolved around the sun. At least government policies supporting scientific research seemed to reflect as much — that we were still stuck in an era where dogma rather than science drove progress.

So what a breath of fresh air it was to hear that the Obama administration was renewing funding for research on all stem cell lines, and that combating climate change would be a top priority. Obama even tapped Steven Chu, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, as his Secretary of Energy.

This is more than enough to convince me that the President understands that long-term solutions are required to ensure the United States has a safe, clean, and independent energy infrastructure. But if the Obama administration is truly committed to exploring a comprehensive set of options for ensuring that kind of energy future, fusion energy must be on that list.

I’m not Course XXII, so I won’t try to explain fusion energy myself. I did, however, recently visit the MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center (PSFC), which describes fusion as “the energy source of the sun and other stars ... a reaction process that converts matter into energy.”

Nuclear fusion differs from fission, the type of reaction that provides 14% of the world’s

energy today, in several important ways. Fission relies on the principle that energy is released when heavy atomic nuclei are split apart, whereas fusion relies on the fusing of two hydrogen isotope nuclei (i.e. deuterium or tritium) to release energy.

Fusion yields far fewer radioactive byproducts, cannot be easily weaponized, and has the potential to produce large amounts of energy with cheap fuel. In the future, fusion power plants may even be used to dispose of the radioactive waste produced in fission plants. The PSFC claims fusion has “enormous potential as an energy source” and offers a “safe, virtually inexhaustible, long-term energy option with major environmental advantages.”

The problem is, it has thus far proven difficult, and expensive, to build fusion reactors. No current experimental reactor has yet provided a model for a viable energy source and all require large amounts of input energy to operate. Some even claim fusion can never be a viable, cost-effective energy source. Because of this, fusion research has received inconsistent or minimal funding.

So why choose fusion over fission? Nobody denies that modern fission plants are a highly efficient source of energy, are economical, and have much smaller environmental footprints than fossil fuel-based plants. But it is also clear that there is a powerful cultural and political stigma around fission plants — no matter how inaccurate that judgment may be.

For example, in 1998, the City of Cambridge voted by more than 2:1 to move MIT’s research nuclear reactor out of the city, despite the fact that it posed no threat to city residents.

Just like fusion, fission plants have their own troubles to contend with. Fusion, however, may prove to be the road towards an efficient energy source that is politically and psychologically appealing to our government and our country.

The very nature of scientific progress suggests that current hurdles to creating a fusion plant may not last. Despite funding difficulties, fusion research has come a long way since pioneering experiments in the 1950s. And it’s impossible to predict what kind of advances in the fusion technology — and related fields — might allow us to build cheaper, more efficient, and viable fusion reactors. The enthusiasm for fusion at MIT and other research centers and its enormous promise as a safe, clean, and abundant source of energy make it impossible to ignore.

But ignored it has been by Congress. The International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) — a large, multilateral project currently underway — is the world’s first step towards designing a functional, effective fusion power plant. Initially sponsored by the US, EU, India, Japan, China, Russia, and South Korea in 2006, ITER is targeted to begin operation in 2018.

However, in 2007, Congress included “\$0 for the U.S. contribution to ITER,” formerly \$610 million, in the 2008 budget and provided that “Funding may not be reprogrammed from other activities within Fusion Energy Science to restore the US contribution to ITER” (see HR 2764).

Although it is true that the United States still supports some domestic fusion research, the ITER project is not only an important step in fusion development beyond our projects at home, but it is also symbolic of the international need to cooperate to solve the energy crisis. Participation in ITER, therefore, is partially a matter of investing in a promising yet difficult challenge, but also an investment in our standing on the world stage.

Don’t take my word for it. Twenty leading fusion scientists, in a letter to the Bush administration in 2008, described ITER as “the pathway to the future of fusion energy.” “For the sake of the international and domestic fusion effort and for the sake of the US reputation in the international scientific community, we most respectfully urge that funding be provided for continued U.S. participation in ITER,” the letter stated. The letter was signed by MIT’s own Miklos Porkolab, professor of physics and director of the PSFC.

The letter may have been sent to President Bush, but Obama and today’s Congress should heed its words. Even if a fusion power plant may seem like an economic or physical impossibility today, the promise of a brighter energy future is well worth the risk of failure. In fact, I’d say any promise for a brighter energy future is well worth 0.4 percent of AIG’s bailout money.



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The Quixotic Search for a Silver Bullet

Fusion Research Is a Waste of Society’s Resources

Keith Yost

Take it from a nuclear engineer: there is no future in fusion power. It will never be economical. Even if the very sizable technical hurdles were surmounted — magnetics, plasma physics, materials, and tritium availability to name a few — the capital cost of fusion’s heat island (the reactor sans turbines and other accouterments), would still be 2-3 times greater than that of a fission reactor, on a per-MW basis.

Nor is there any compelling motivation to develop fusion power. At current uranium prices, we have guaranteed reserves sufficient for 150 years of present-day consumption. And if that weren’t enough, for every doubling in ore prices, resource availability goes up by a factor of ten — or, to put it differently, we could mine uranium for 1500 years and the quality

of the deposits would go down by only 50%. Given that uranium is a very small contributor to the end cost of fission, we could use fission power for millennia before any economic need arose to find alternatives.

Support for “loser technologies” is often predicated on a sloppy application of Moore’s law. Photovoltaic solar advocates are routinely in the business of claiming exponential annual increases in the efficiency of their technology while simultaneously presuming the stagnation of any competitor. They assume fantastical and sustained rates of technological increase, extrapolate out for N decades, and predict a year when their technology will be competitive with present-day alternatives.

One wonders why they don’t simply continue their extrapolation to N+1 decades and promise us effectively free electricity for everyone. One also wonders why they don’t think such fantastical breakthroughs can occur in mature technologies. In fission for example,

there are plenty of research areas, such as annular fuel or nanofluid coolant, which have similar game-changing potential.

Fusion and other “out-there” research is regularly billed as an investment in our future, but the more apt analogy is buying a Power Ball ticket. This is not a sound roll of the dice, this is a move born out of frustration, desperation and self-deception. It stems from a lack of political will to tackle the policy problems of today’s technology. Instead of bringing disparate stakeholders together to settle energy policy issues, we’d much rather cross our fingers and hope for a technological savior to deliver us from the need for political courage.

The basic premise of economics is scarcity. If you want to spend resources on fusion, then you must necessarily take them from somewhere else. We always like to imagine that the resources will be taken from areas we don’t like (Personally, I wouldn’t mind funding fusion if the money somehow came from, say,

reality TV). But that isn’t how such transfers occur — it’s more useful to imagine the resources being diverted in proportion to current levels of spending. A dollar in fusion comes out of, to varying degrees, education, health care, and, most importantly, other research.

Tossing a billion dollars a year towards fusion doesn’t sound like a lot in these wild days of government check writing until you remember that MIT as an institute “only” spends about a billion dollars a year in its entire operating budget. With proposed fusion funding we could finance an entire MIT’s worth of education and research.

One of the troubles of letting government pick winners is that legislators and bureaucrats are likely to under-appreciate the opportunity costs of the funds they use. If the government is going to be productively involved in directing funding, it needs to set priorities and draw lines. Fusion, unfortunately, does not make the cut.

UA Update Fruit and Vegetable Stand, Institute Committees, and ASA Elections

Last Tuesday marked the opening of an on-campus fruit and vegetable stand sponsored by Campus Dining and the UA. The stand will be open every Tuesday, weather permitting, from noon to 6 p.m.

The Nominations Committee is accepting applications for 2009-2010 academic year Institute Committee positions through tonight at midnight. Institute Committee members work with senior administrators and key faculty members on topics such as the future of the undergraduate curriculum, undergraduate admissions and financial aid, and disciplinary policy. The application can be found online at <http://ua.mit.edu/represent>. Additionally, the Nominations Committee will be hosting an open meeting on Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Senate Chambers with many of the student members of the Institute Wide Planning Task Force. The meeting aims to facilitate communication among the members of the different working groups and to solicit feedback from the student body regarding the Task Force’s proceedings.

Athletics Weekend will be next Saturday, April 11. Show your support for the Men’s Lightweight Crew, Sailing, Men’s Lacrosse, Baseball, and Men’s Tennis varsity teams and compete in Beaver Bowl with the Athletics Committee.

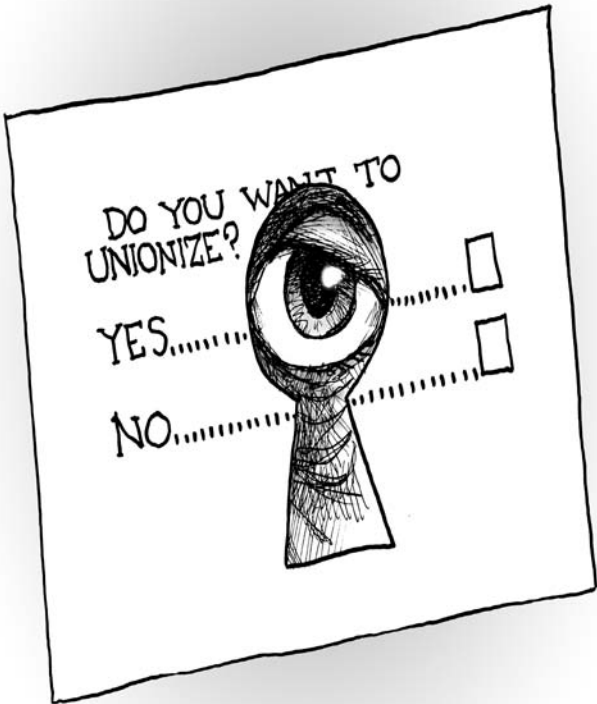
—Elizabeth Denys, UA secretary general

The Association of Student Activities will hold its spring general body meeting on Monday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in 34-101. At the meeting, which is open to all students, the assembled leadership of all ASA-recognized student clubs will elect the 2009-10 ASA Executive Board to lead student activities policy and advocacy for next year. Students interested in running should refer to <http://web.mit.edu/asa/about/board-members.html>. Typically, the ASA Executive Board consists of students who are experienced as leaders of individual student activities, but the election is open to all.

Platforms in the form of a single PowerPoint slide can be submitted to asa-elect@mit.edu; alternatively, candidates can be nominated or can nominate themselves at the meeting.

—Keone Hon, ASA president

STAFF PHOTO BY STEPHEN M. HARRIS FOR THE MIT NEWS SERVICE



CARD CHECK



ARTS

CONCERT FEATURE

What's the Buzz?

MIT Hosts the Beeline Festival, April 5–19

By S. Balaji Mani
ARTS EDITOR

*Beeline Festival
Featuring The Calder Quartet, Iva Bittova,
Robert Black and Gamelan Galak Tika
The Broad Institute
April 5–19, 2009*

Kicking off this Sunday is the Beeline Festival at the Broad Institute. The festival hopes to introduce MIT and the surrounding community to new and exciting music, as well some exciting culinary treats. Co-coordinators Christine N. Southworth '01 and MIT professor Evan Ziporyn, both musicians themselves in Gamelan Galak Tika, have organized six outstanding performances every weekend in April. The opening concert this Sunday will feature The Calder Quartet, as well as a reception where guests can taste honey and pastries made by local beekeepers and chefs. After the reception is a second set with Gutbucket.

The theme of bees and creating a community around music may seem unrelated, but really the connection is quite clear. As Ziporyn and Southworth pointed out in a joint e-mail, “the original idea of the festival was to create a gathering point, a space where people from different musical worlds could come together, hear things they might not have known about, and find a connection to it. Someone mentioned

to us that this was a form of ‘hiving’ — a social phenomenon that we didn’t know had a name.” Both of the eager musicians are amateur beekeepers themselves. Though the idea for the festival originated last June, concrete plans only materialized this year. Most of the musicians at this year’s festival perform regularly around the globe, but are not as well known in the U.S.

By merging various musical worlds, the intention behind the festival is also to “cross-pollinate” and encourage listeners of one style of music to participate in the whole festival and discover a completely new style of music. Ziporyn and Southworth both believe that “there is no substitution for live performance ... Performers like Gutbucket and Iva Bittova ... [must be seen live] to understand what they’re all about.”

The closing performance on April 19 will be given by Gamelan Galak Tika, a group founded at MIT by Ziporyn in 1993. Southworth has also been involved with the ensemble, which specializes in traditional and contemporary Balinese music, for ten years. “There’s an energy and spontaneity that needs to be experienced,” they wrote. In addition to observing this as an audience member, you can even experience it through a free gamelan workshop offered before Gamelan Galak Tika’s performance.

For more information head to www.beelinefestival.com, or send an e-mail to info@beelinefestival.com.



COURTESY OF THE BEELINE FESTIVAL

The Calder Quartet will open the Beeline Festival this Sunday, April 5 at the Broad Institute.

CONCERT REVIEW

Moz: ‘To Be Human Is to Be Loved’

And Oh, How the Crowd Loves Him

By S. Balaji Mani
ARTS EDITOR

*Morrissey
House of Blues, Boston, MA
March 29, 2009*

Former Smiths frontman Morrissey stopped by Boston on Sunday, March 29th as part of his Tour of Refusal, in support of his latest studio record *Years of Refusal*. A crowd waited in line hours before doors opened in order to get a great spot at the House of Blues. The general admission floor area filled up quickly with eager fans awaiting a chance to touch the singer himself, as he is known to generously offer his hand to those in the first few rows.

Manchester-based quintet The Courteeners warmed up the audience with a plain assortment of indie tunes. The vocalist could barely be heard, but a generous applause followed each number. Before the last song, the unabashed singer brazenly pointed out that “we’re all here for Morrissey anyways,” and continued into an intense punk-influenced song that encouraged the crowd to move a little.

To assuage the anticipation of Morrissey’s set, a medley of ancient music videos were projected on a plain white screen covering the stage set up. As the lights went down, the white sheet dropped to reveal the band, in front of a gigantic backdrop of a shirtless sailor smoking a cigar with the word “refusal” written across

his chest. After a dragging piano intro, Morrissey (or Moz, as he’s commonly referred to in print and by fans) stepped onto the stage as the band kicked into “This Charming Man,” a popular Smiths single.

Immediately, the crowd began to dance, and it swayed side to side as Morrissey moved across the stage, approaching the audience. Without any delay, Morrissey began shaking outstretched hands, satisfying half of the front row by the end of the first song. From the floor, the sound filled the room incredibly, and Morrissey’s brilliant vocals sounded crisp and clear, even against the brash performance from his backing band. The singer himself was dressed casually, in a black dress shirt and jeans, but his band sported collegiate and high school sports shirts.

Always delivering his esoteric (and in some cases seemingly non-sequitur) aphorisms, Morrissey’s banter was received by both confusion and laughter. In between “This Charming Man,” and “Billy Budd,” he welcomed everyone to the “house of booze,” (mocking the venue’s name) and encouraged the audience to “take advantage of the fact.”

Also, prone to silly stage antics and changing his lyrics spontaneously, Morrissey stumbled about the stage, as if in a drunken stupor, during “How Soon Is Now?” It is arguably the most popular Smiths song, and the opening guitar riff threw the crowd into a frenzy. The ending section of “How Soon Is Now?,” which

gives the band an opportunity to create dark and playful textures, went on a little too long and become unbearably loud for the venue. The song ended with drummer Matt Walker banging on a giant suspended bass drum next to his drum kit. Incredibly, though, the lighting was synched perfectly to every number. Though, admittedly, that’s not very difficult for Morrissey’s crew, who benefit from the band playing nearly an identical set list every night.

Though Morrissey knows that fans crave hearing Smiths songs as well as his older solo material, he still inserted more than half of the songs from his new record into the show. The majority of the house was singing along as well, a testament to their fanaticism (the album only came out a month ago). Later in the set, an eager fan handed Morrissey a LP copy of *Years of Refusal*. Everyone cheered as Morrissey autographed the record sleeve and admitted on the microphone, “if I can bring one second of happiness to anyone,” and trailed off.

The most successful new songs were “Black Cloud,” and “I’m Throwing My Arms Around Paris.” Morrissey gave equal passion to his performance on his older material as well as the new. The end of “Irish Blood, English Heart” featured yet another drawn out jam from the band. This gave Morrissey an opportunity to go backstage and change into a white dress shirt. The music kept droning on, not too inspiringly, and most of the crowd just watched plainly, waiting for the star to return. As if to excuse

this momentary musical self-indulgence, Morrissey quietly urged, “but we must.”

A sex symbol, equally mystical for his secrecy regarding his much-debated sexual orientation, Morrissey isn’t shy to disrobe during shows. During “Let Me Kiss You,” the singer provocatively grabbed his body, ripping his shirt off and tossing it into the crowd. The audience roared and collectively pushed forward to catch the sweaty prize.

Even by the end of the set, when Morrissey performed “Something Is Squeezing My Skull,” he showed his endurance as a vocalist reaching all of the high notes in the catchy chorus.

Before leaving, Morrissey again poked fun at the venue calling it the “house of rules,” explaining that the venue wouldn’t let him use the in-house kitchens to prepare peppers and rice for their “long journey” to Ann Arbor, Michigan. Morrissey, an outspoken vegetarian, was clearly upset: “people are just horrible, aren’t they?”

Although the crowd wasn’t as raucous as usual, there was a good deal of singing along and plenty of dancing. Those in the back of the floor wanting to get a handshake from Morrissey fulfilled their wishes during the encore of “First of the Gang to Die.” Fans crowdsurfed forward, and Morrissey, against the wishes of venue security, politely shook their hands. One delighted fan raised his fist in victory, encouraging others to follow suit.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Top of the Hub: Restaurant Week

Extraordinary View, Ordinary Food

By Sun Kim
STAFF WRITER

*Top of the Hub
800 Boylston St #52
Prudential Center, Back Bay
(617) 536 1775*

In many major cities, Restaurant Week serves as an annual or a biannual tradition. Two or three course meals at acclaimed restaurants in the city go for relatively inexpensive prices. I took advantage of this event by taking my girlfriend to the Top of the Hub, located on the 52nd floor of the Prudential Tower.

Doing some research, I found out that Top of the Hub is not known for haut cuisine, which tempered my expectations for the Three-Course Prix Fixe. However, the restaurant is regarded as being romantic and said to have a great dining atmosphere, which could lead to an enjoyable experience overall.

My party arrived a few minutes early, expecting a busy albeit Monday night. We were greeted by cozy mood lighting and a fantastic view of South Boston’s shoreline. The hostess quickly seated us to a table that was not next to the window, but we were still able to enjoy the scenery of the Boston skyline at dusk.

The Restaurant Week Menu looked intriguing but limited. I assumed that most restaurants prepared these dishes in bulk. Wanting to sample the entire selection, my girlfriend and I chose alternating items from the menu.

For the first course, I ordered arugula with cherry tomatoes, goat cheese, crispy red onions, and creamy tomatillo dressing. She had the Manhattan clam chowder. I’m not a big fan of Manhattan clam chowder because it is red and, in my opinion, not a real chowder, so I didn’t try the soup. Apparently, it tasted more like a vegetable soup, and my girlfriend was half expecting alphabet noodles. The salad was drizzled nicely with the tomatillo dressing,

and the feta was savory. The fried onions were a bit oily and a little soggy, which supports my hypothesis that the dishes are prepared in bulk. Overall, the salad started the three-course meal well, causing me to anticipate the main entrée with eagerness.

Shortly after we finished the appetizers, the main course arrived with steaming food and artful presentation. My rigatoni was braised with veal breast ragout, porcini mushrooms and roasted garlic. The ragout was flavorful but over-seasoned and unsophisticated, reminiscent of a spicier, saltier version of Campbell’s soup. I had to gulp glasses of lemon-flavored water to prevent dehydration. The veal had the consistency of average sloppy joe meat, stringy and tough to chew. The porcini mushrooms, few and far between, tasted succulent. My girlfriend ordered the herb lemon roasted half chicken, accompanied by sweet potato purée, green beans, and fried sage, topped with cranberry jelly and chicken jus. The purée was an

uncomplicated side dish with the consistency of apple sauce. The chicken, although breaded tastefully, was a bit overcooked, resulting in a slightly dry texture. The second course was filling, but too simple and seemingly sub-par for a reputed restaurant.

The dessert, as it turned out, was the weakest dish of the three. The blandness of the crème brûlée took me aback and the cardboard consistency of the wafers in the vanilla mousse made a disappointing conclusion to the Prix Fixe. I ate the vanilla mousse reluctantly and couldn’t force myself the finish the crème brûlée, leaving it half-eaten.

During the course of the dinner, I noticed other couples, young and old, and business events, adding to the stately atmosphere of the hall. This mood enhanced an otherwise mediocre meal. Despite the middling meal, the atmosphere and excitement of going to Top of the Hub made the experience all-in-all pleasant at best.

CONCERT REVIEW

Storm und Drang, but Insightful Too

Perahia Delivers with Mastery and Intelligence

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER
Murray Perahia, *Celebrity Series*
Symphony Hall, Boston, MA
March 28, 2009

Who *hasn't* played Murray Perahia's March 28th program? Or at least tried; all of the works performed by Murray Perahia on Sunday afternoon's Celebrity Series concert are somewhere gathering dust on my piano, multiple recordings litter my CD collection. It's music that we've studied to understand what Western music is, music we've scrutinized to hear what Western music is supposed to sound like, and perhaps that's what was so fundamentally difficult about Sunday's performance. What can there possibly be to say about music that's been spoken about for so long?

As it turns out, a lot: what was stunning about Perahia's performance was its constant reinvention of the stock works for the piano. Sunday's performance replaced the standard with the innovative, constantly listening and reiterating old works with an ear to tradition yet presenting an almost dogged exploration of what the music can be.

Take, for instance, Bach's Keyboard Partita No. 1 in B flat (BWV 825); it seems hubris to try and perform the work, for that matter any Bach, after Glenn Gould's devastatingly thorough mid-century recordings for Sony Classical. But as with Perahia's work with the Goldberg Variations, there was something more to be said about the first Partita.

It's tempting to play Bach on the piano as if it were a harpsichord or clavier (the instru-

ment Bach originally envisioned for the majority of his keyboard works). But the modern piano is very different, especially in the hands of Perahia. Bach's labyrinthine counterpoint had multiple voices, not by virtue of the music itself, but because it's possible to accentuate these on the modern piano. In this light, the usually tedious repetitions of each of the movements of the partita weren't simply embellishments on the original music or vast ornamentations on the skeletal composition, but in a sense, a completely new hearing of the music.

This sense of theme and variation continued through the performance. Classically considered a minor contribution to the development of the genre, Mozart's piano sonatas are often works of scorn, and it was curious to see the Piano Sonata in F Major (K 332) on the program.

Although Mozart often occupies a space between somewhere elegant and numbingly boring, Perahia's performance brought new meaning to the sonatas of the classical giant; whereas reiterations of the Bach partita were conspicuously unornamented, the attempts at Mozart were almost baroque with their *agréments* (the interpretation is not without precedent: Mozart's *Adagio* movement is exactly this — a simple melody that is repeated with ornamentation; why not extend the thinking through to the entire sonata?). But more than that, here, Mozart was not marmoreal and bloodless; there was something dramatic about the portrayal that brought Mozart into the vivid light of reality.

The interpretation was an interesting segue to the histrionics of the Beethoven Piano So-

nata No. 23 in F minor (Op 57, "*Appassionata*"). Beethoven is dramatic to begin with, especially works from his middle period (along with the *Appassionata*, the *Waldstein*) that are not only complex in their structure but also extended in their form far beyond anyone had previously conceived. Played well, the sonatas depict the frightening ferocity Beethoven must have demonstrated at the piano himself, and in Perahia's hands, the music turned orchestral, although still backed by the rich intellectualism that pervaded the concert.

The work was a piece for the theme and variation structure of the afternoon's performance — not only for its theme and variation during the middle movement, but also precisely because of the innovations that Beethoven had brought to the sonata form. Portions of the first movement repeat and explicate not only in the opening portion but throughout the work — the musical game of "hide the melody" pervades the entire piece and this is what became illumined in Perahia's performance. Certainly, playing the *Appassionata* is no small feat in itself, but emphasizing Beethoven's *modus operandi* takes the work to a completely new level.

As if to drive home the entire point of the afternoon, the program concluded with Brahms's *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel* in B flat Major (Op 24). A relatively early work in Brahms's opus, it too continues and explicates on work from its predecessors, often gaining a seat as one of the top three theme and variation sets ever composed (two earlier works, Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, and Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations*, usually rank as the other two). Variation sets progress from

simpler (obvious derivations of the theme) to far more complex (mere hints at where the original theme comes in) throughout the work and it seems only redundant to try and explain Perahia's masterful performance — regardless of how complex the variation, Perahia's interpretation was staunchly centered on the original theme of the work, managing pristine clarity in even the most muddled of Brahms's ideas.

Perahia rewarded the audience with an encore consisting of Schubert's Impromptu No. 2 in E flat, (Op 90, D 899).

Certainly one of the finest recitals I've attended, Murray Perahia's performance on Sunday afternoon is also one of the most difficult to write about. To call the music, the interpretation, beautiful is a misrepresentation simply because it was far more than that. There are many performers who can play works well, at times even beautifully, and Sunday's performance certainly fulfilled those requirements. But that wasn't the point. Listening to Perahia play was not to simply listen to the music, but to explore it. To hear Perahia perform was to sit with an old master at the piano and receive an education on what the stocks of the repertoire are and, more importantly, what they can be.

The result is surprising, to say the least. Although it's certainly easy and obvious to say that such performances leave the audience with a sense of awe and wonder, it is something else to observe that only with these rarest of musicians, imbued with mastery tempered with understanding, are performances also capable of changing the audience's understanding of the music at the very fundamental level.

THEATER REVIEW

MIT Shakespeare Ensemble Performs 'Pericles'

An Obscure Work is the Engineer's Play

By Samuel Markson
STAFF WRITER
Pericles
MIT Shakespeare Ensemble
Directed by Dahlia Al-Habiel (Wellesley '07)
March 12-14 and 19-21
La Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT Stratton Student Center

Drama is tough. It takes a lot time, a lot of money, and a lot of otherwise unemployed people willing to sacrifice both soul and social life for the glory of a few good performances. Unlike some of the other arts, which are often solitary, drama is always about other people: the audience, the cast, the director. No production is "pure" in that sense, but rather the amalgam of a host of other people's opinions and decisions.

All of this makes theatre particularly difficult to conduct at MIT, where one can't afford to spend months becoming a single character. Drama requires transformation, but the MIT

workload is marvelous at keeping that from happening (it's hard to have time for yourself, much less your fictional counterpart). Which is why I'm glad to congratulate the cast and crew of *Pericles* for an engaging and effective performance.

The performance was significant on several levels. Most obvious, perhaps, was the director's choice of performance. *Pericles* itself is not the most well-known of Shakespeare's plays, and, among critics, not the most popular (though contemporary critics have been kinder than Shakespeare's peers). It has much less of the moral dilemma you'd find in *Macbeth*, and very little psychological tension, a la *King Lear*. It's aligned much more closely to the likes of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, particularly in its episodic and fantastical quality. *Pericles* is at its core an adventure story, a pudding of morality tales, action scenes, and social commentary. It lacks the cohesiveness of Shakespeare's better-known works, but gets in return a far less pretentious quality.

This is what makes it a perfect choice for a cast largely composed of engineers. A play with the emotional intensity of *Hamlet* teeters constantly on the edge of absurdity, even in the hands of an expert cast. *Pericles* remedies that by not trying. There's no choice but to suspend your disbelief. In fact, *Pericles* may well be thought of as a study in disbelief. The format of the play made good use of the natural talents of the cast, and let the cast explore their individual characters with a flexibility not afforded in other works.

Anna Krohn (Wellesley '08) put on a notable performance as the chorus-like Gower, framing the drama between different acts. Krohn's be-

lievability was a good foil to the absurdity of the rest of the play, and it's to her credit that a character that doesn't interact physically with any others was able to aptly color the rest of the cast's performance.

Zachary Tribbet '12 and Rachel Williams '12 also stood out as Pericles and his daughter Marina, locking together certain key scenes, particularly Marina's Act IV enslavement in a brothel, and the reuniting of the pair in Act V.

CD REVIEW

BoA Enters the American Pop Scene

Can the Korean Pop Princess Make It Overseas?

By Maggie Liu
STAFF WRITER
BoA
BoA
Produced by Soo-Man Lee
SM Entertainment / Arsenal Records
March 17, 2009

Although the three-letter name BoA may not currently strike a chord of familiarity in the US, the R&B pop princess is staking her claims in our neighborhood. The pop star who took Korea by storm and rode on top of the *hal-lyu*, the popular culture movement in Korea, recently released her first full-length (and self-titled) English album.

Many had predicted that BoA's transition to the American entertainment industry would not be easy. Many Asian artists, successful and at the apex of popularity in their native countries, fail to penetrate American culture. Hikaru Utada (most well known in the U.S. for her Final Fantasy theme song) failed with her album although her English was fluent. BoA, who had to learn English over

the last two years, does not seem to be a better candidate for success at first glance.

However, her songs are surprisingly catchy and I can already envision some of them being played at clubs or blaring on some dance floor. Granted, she got some help from her producer. Her album does not have a single ballad that follows the stereotypes of other Asian singers. Song after song, the listener finds persistent beats and the incorporation of elements that made every other pop song successful.

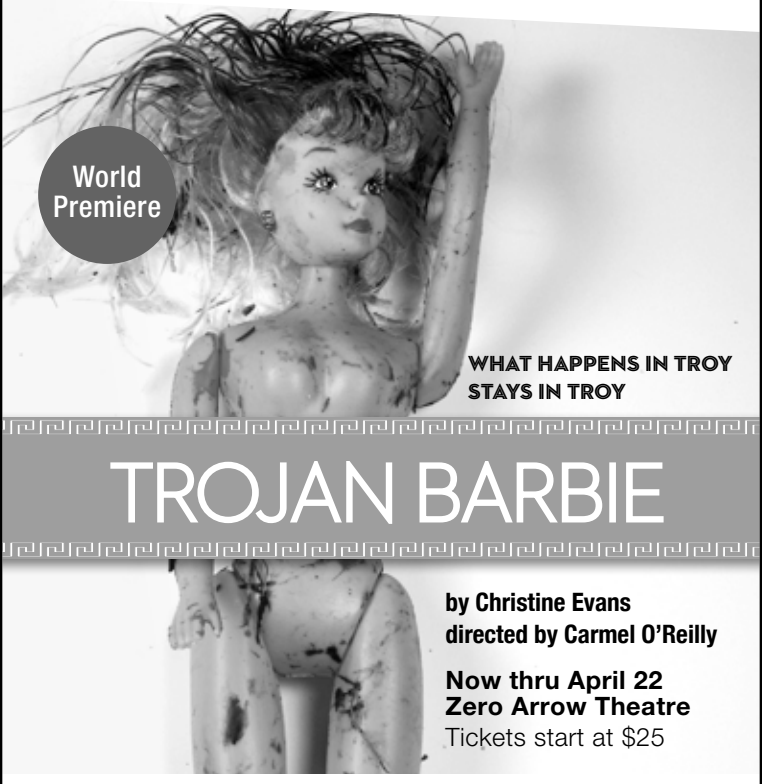
Most of her songs contain a simple and fluid melody, conducive for a karaoke setting. "Eat You Up" was not quite as appealing as "I Did It For Love," partially because there is no single melody. Some of her other songs fall weak though because the formula can only work so often.

Her lyrics are simplistic but that is the nature of most R&B songs. The saving grace of all her songs is the beat. What bothers me the most is how BoA purposely adopts what one may deem an "Asian ghetto accent." Her domestic image of a sassy but cute girl is stripped aside for a kohl-rimmed Asian Rihanna.

Once a pop princess, always a pop princess. In Korea or America, BoA remains situated in the realm of catchy, perhaps not original, but definitely popular dance music.

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Chan Hopes to Save Money; GSC Targets More Sustainability

GSC Prez, from Page 1

Chan believes that he was chosen because of his extensive experience in advocacy as Housing and Community Affairs Committee co-chair, which he thinks is important in the face of budget cuts. In his platform, he promised that, even in these difficult times, he will not only be able to maintain the status quo of graduate student life at MIT but he will “bring it to an entirely different level.” Chan explained that the key elements to achieve this goal are creativity and sustainability.

He referred to the BU/MIT party he helped organize and proudly explains that the event did not cost the GSC a dime. In fact, it earned them several hundred dollars. Chan is convinced that the GSC will find creative solutions to financial issues.

Chan also believes that he will be able to find ways to save money on the long run. He would like MIT to be a pioneer not only in technology, but also in sustainability. He would like to invest in a sustainable campus that will turn all students into responsible citizens and save considerable amounts of money at the same time.

In times of economic decline, he

refuses to go into “defense mode,” but prefers to be aggressive instead, coming up with new initiatives to make sure that student life does not deteriorate ahead of time. He also hopes to establish the GSC as the “group that would be willing to go the extra mile to defend everyone’s welfare.”

Chan promises his decision-making will take into account the GSC’s visibility and diversity at MIT. It is his goal to increase the visibility of the GSC, and he wants to get more students involved.

Chan believes that with Charles Gammal, an MBA student, as secretary, he is confident that the council will finally be able to connect with the Sloan students.

Chan also wants to make sure that the activities they organize will attract new people, and he wants to increase the communication between the council and the student body in order to involve as many students as possible in the decision-making process.

Chan’s predecessor, Oaz Nir G, told *The Tech* that one of the most difficult parts of being president of the GSC is that the organization depends entirely on its volunteers. Chan said he is confident that he will be able to motivate his team.

MIT Press Will Make More E-Books; Kendall Sq. Store Will Remain

Digital Press, from Page 1

press’ e-book sales comes from users of the Amazon Kindle, a portable e-book reader that has access to over 250,000 books.

The e-books sometimes lack pictures or drawings originally in the physical copies, Schrader said. Many illustrators have not yet licensed their work to MIT Press for electronic distribution.

Schrader said MIT Press has suffered a 10 percent decrease in its book sales.

According to Schrader, university presses throughout the country have experienced similar declines in sales. A recent survey published by the American Association of University Presses estimates an average 10 percent loss in sales and revenue between July and December 2008.

As a result of declining earnings, university presses are also starting to take different approaches to their

business models. For instance, Yale University Press plans to cut back on printing and focus more on their new e-book program.

The Cornell University Press is following the same trend, as a result of students purchasing fewer course texts and borrowing more books from the library.

The University of Michigan Press, however, has reacted differently by reestablishing itself as a sub-organization of the university’s library. In effect, the press will receive funding as an academic department, lessening the pressure to follow a profitable business model.

MIT Press will continue to operate its bookstore located in Kendall Square, which contributes a small fraction of the press’s revenue. “The bookstore lets the MIT Press experiment with new and specialized books that are not normally found in general bookstores,” Schrader said. The bookstore also serves as a spot to host author events.



A red-tailed hawk sits in a tree in the courtyard bordered by buildings 35 and 37.

STEVE HOWLAND—THE TECH

Solution to Sudoku															
from page 13															
9	7	2	5	3	1	4	6	8							
6	3	1	9	4	8	7	5	2							
5	8	4	7	2	6	1	3	9							
3	1	7	6	9	4	2	8	5							
2	5	6	8	1	7	9	4	3							
8	4	9	3	5	2	6	1	7							
7	9	8	4	6	5	3	2	1							
1	6	5	2	7	3	8	9	4							
4	2	3	1	8	9	5	7	6							

Solution to Crossword															
from page 13															
T	L	C		M	S	N	B	C		I	P	O	D	S	
A	I	L		A	I	O	L	I		P	O	D	I	A	
C	E	A		S	T	R	I	N	G	A	L	O	N	G	
L	E	S		A	C	K		P	E	T	N	A	M	E	S
				S	T	O	A	T		M	O	E	N		
F	A	C	E		I	D	A		M	S	D	O	S		
R	E	L		S	R	T	A		D	A	K	O	T	A	
A	T	O		M		F	I	R	S	T		I	W	O	N
I	N	W		A	R	D		E	A	S	E	N	E	D	
L	A	N		C	E		A	S	P		M	E	S	S	Y
				A	T	O	Z		P	R	I	N	T		
S	H	E		R	I	D	A	N		I	N	G	R	I	D
T	I	M		E	R	E	L	E	A	S	E		E	N	O
A	L	I		N	E		E	L	L	E	N		A	X	L
N	O	R		A	D		A	L	E	R	T		M	S	T

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The 2009 Harold & Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts

Paintings, prints, sculpture, video, photography, ceramics, art glass - all forms of visual art

All currently registered MIT students may enter the Schnitzer Visual Arts Competition

Deadline: **Monday April 13, 2009**

between 12noon and 5pm at the Student Art Association (W20-429), please submit:

- 1) Examples of artist's work
 - a. Three pieces that well represent your entire body of work
 - b. Or one piece of original work and visual representations of other originals (i.e. slides, photographic prints, etc.)
- 2) A written statement concerning artist's intent as it pertains to his or her works and art in general

PRIZES & EXHIBITION

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in the competition

Honorable mentions may also be awarded

Winners must be willing and able to display their work in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery for an exhibition that will open on May 26, 2009

This includes the installation and deinstallation of the exhibition

The show will hang in the gallery during Commencement, and close at the end of June 2009

There will be an opening reception at the gallery for the MIT community on May 26, 2009

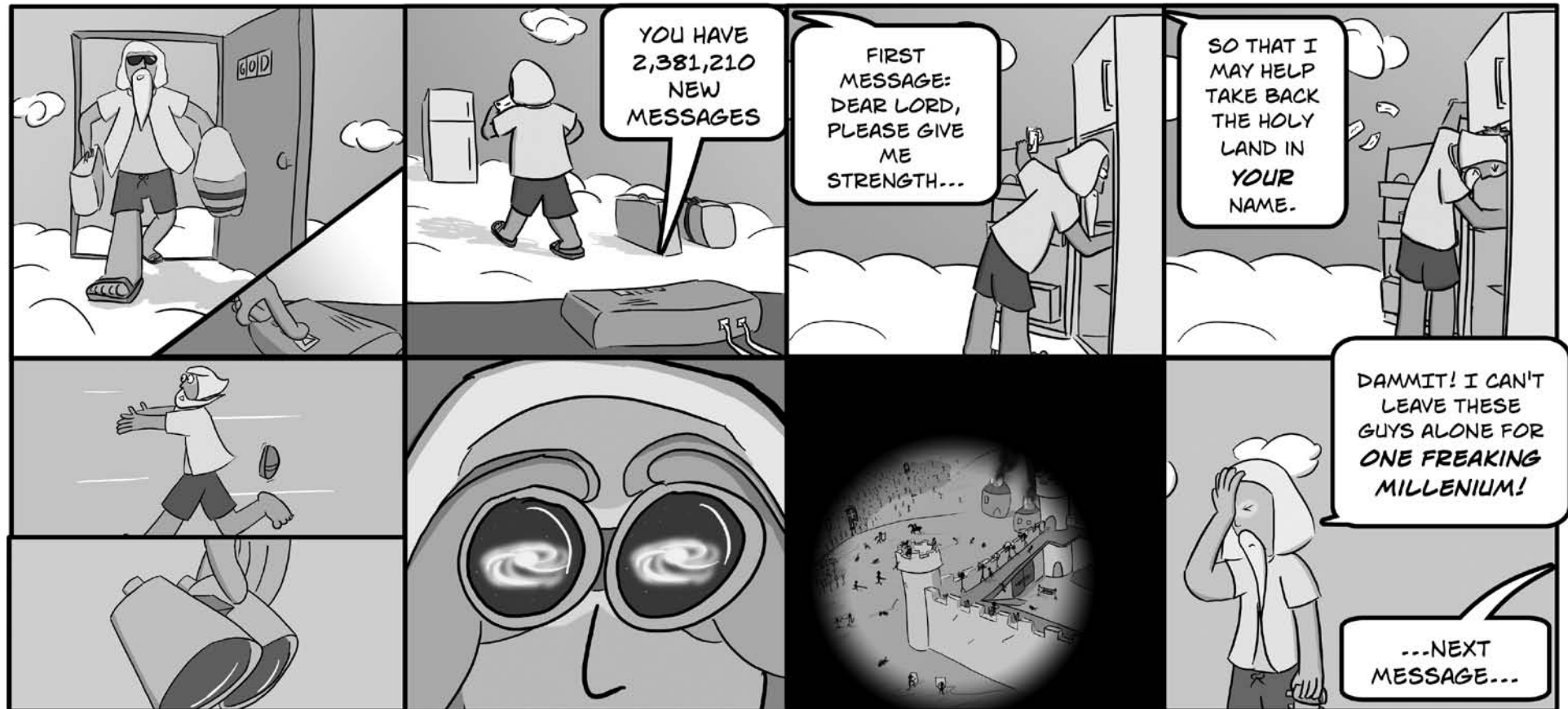
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Please contact cohen@media.mit.edu for a pdf of the application package

<http://saa.mit.edu//schnitzer.html>

Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

Wednesday, April 01, 2009

Humankind's first alien contact... unfortunately



Help Desk

by Michael Benitez



Doonesbury
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Pseudoscience by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer

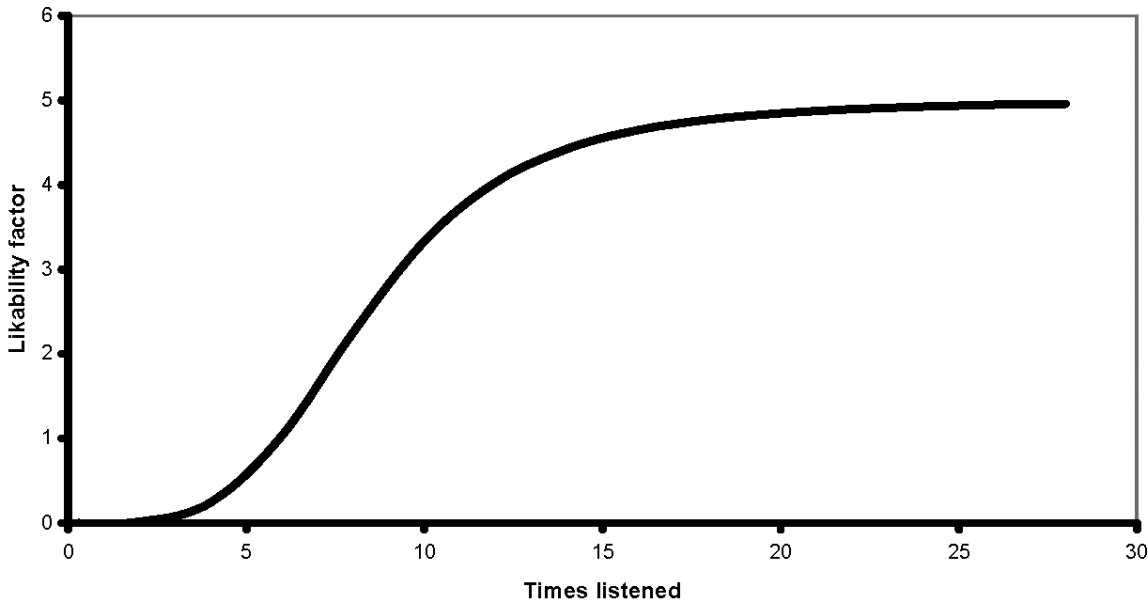


Figure 54. The graph shows the likability of the majority of songs listed on the Billboard 100 as a function of the times listened. Although some notable exceptions exist, most songs are not recognized as “hits” by an average listener the first couple of times that are played. It is only by being repeatedly exposed to the same song that the public learns to like it, an effect that is observed with many acquired tastes. In fact, the author’s “Addiction Theory of Modern Music” argues that these kinds of songs show a likability curve similar to that of harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and licorice candy, and maintains that a maximum level of exposure should be set by law. (Comments welcome at <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com/>).

su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 9.

9	7							
	3	1						
	8		7	2	6			
				9	4			5
		6	8		7	9		
8			3	5				
			4	6	5		2	
						8	9	
							7	6

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 9

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18					19					
20			21				22							
		23				24		25						
26	27					28	29		30		31	32	33	
34				35	36				37					
38			39		40			41			42			
43				44			45			46		47		
48						49				50	51			
			52		53			54	55					
56	57	58						59		60			61	62
63								64				65		
66						67						68		
69						70						71		

- ACROSS**

 - 1 RN’s niceness
 - 4 “Countdown” network
 - 9 21st-century music players
 - 14 Feel unwell
 - 15 Garlic sauce
 - 16 Oration spots
 - 17 Poetic meadow
 - 18 Lead on
 - 20 “Serendipity” star John
 - 22 Honey and Sugar, e.g.
 - 23 Summer ermine
 - 25 Faucet giant
 - 26 Gem surface
 - 28 Actress Lupino
 - 30 Windows predecessor
 - 34 Theol. belief
 - 35 Miss in Sp.
 - 37 Fanning of “Man on Fire”
 - 38 Tiny bit
 - 40 Word before 18A, 63A, 3D and 31D
 - 42Victor’s cry
 - 43To the center
 - 45 Let up
 - 47 Actor Beatty
 - 48 Judge Ito
 - 49 Small viper
- 50 Unkempt

52 The gamut

54 News medium

56 Union general

60 Ms. Bergman

63 Producing a sustained effect

65 “Dune” composer

66 Dress type

67 Actress Barkin

68 Rose of Guns N’ Roses

69 W. Hemisphere protection syst.

70 Warning

71 Hrs. in Colo.

DOWN

 - 1 Sprinkle after a shower
 - 2 Stead
 - 3 School’s cool fool
 - 4 Good luck characters
 - 5 Former Alaskan capital
 - 6 Neither partner
 - 7 Radar image
 - 8 Movie theater
 - 9 Getz hit, “The Girl from __”
 - 10 “Chinatown” director
- 11 “Blue Moon” of baseball
 - 12 Eat elegantly
 - 13 Droops
 - 19 Classic Pontiac letters
 - 21 Chowd down
 - 24 Small monkey
 - 26 Delicate
 - 27 MetLife rival
 - 29 Challenges
 - 31 With the current
 - 32 Nebraska Sioux
 - 33 Pitcher Koufax
 - 36 Old postal letters
 - 37 Sot’s shakes
 - 39 1990s dance
 - 41 Warren of the NFL
 - 44 Out of the rat race
 - 46 Renowned
 - 49 Spring bloomer
 - 51 H.S. subject
 - 53 Keats piece
 - 55 Stair section
 - 56 Ollie’s partner
 - 57 Big Island city
 - 58 Bahrain ruler
 - 59 Foster film
 - 61 “Devil Inside” group
 - 62 Blockhead
 - 64 “Cakes and __”

A Message from the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)

Dear MIT Students,

Greetings from the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)! As you return from Spring Break, we want to reach out to students still seeking internships and jobs, as well as to those students who may have experienced rescinded or otherwise revised offers.

We want to share information on the current job market, alert you to a special seminar series that we have developed in response to the tight job market and note particular services and resources available to assist you.

For those graduating in 2010, initial projections indicate that the decline in college recruiting is likely to continue through next year, suggesting that you should begin your planning now with these recommendations in mind. Although the college hiring trends are not encouraging, there are companies and industries that are hiring and most importantly, there are effective strategies that can be utilized during this difficult economic period.

College Hiring Trends

As the year has progressed it has become clear that there has been a decline in college hiring. Specifically, the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Job Outlook Spring 2009 Update reports that employers who responded to their survey indicate that they expect to hire 22 % fewer new graduates from the Class of 2009 than they did last year. Hiring expectations have declined from nearly all industrial sectors, with the exception of federal government agencies and some companies from the logistics, transportation and utilities sector, which plans to hire more new college graduates than they did from the Class of 2008. The same report notes that all U.S. regions are reporting declines in college hiring, with the Northeast (down 40 %) and the West (down 32 %) with the most losses. Forty-six percent of respondents are uncertain about hiring goals for the Class of 2010, but only one-third of responding employers are projecting that they will hire the same amount or more graduates as this year. Our own review of MIT recruiting activity for this academic year shows a nearly 30 % decline in on-campus interviews compared to 2007-08. Specific to internships, the NACE 2009 Experiential Education Survey indicates that employers anticipate hiring nearly 21% fewer interns this year compared to last year. Despite this negative snapshot, it is important to note that **this job market is challenging but not impenetrable.**

GECDC's Response

GECDC has already implemented a number of special programs in response to changes in the job market, in addition to a comprehensive range of career planning and employment preparation programs and services. Be sure to take advantage of these free and targeted programs and services.

- Tough Economy Series**—GECDC is conducting a series of special workshops offering information, tips and strategies for success in a tight job market. Among the presentations are Sloan Professor Howard Anderson's presentation on "Getting a Great Job in a Tough Economy" and a special "Town Hall Meeting on the State of the Job Market." The following is a list of the remaining sessions.
 - Getting a Great Job in a Tough Economy by Sloan Professor Howard Anderson**
Monday, April 6; 2:30-4:00 PM; Room 1-190
 - Creative Job Search by Conducting Company Research by Kathleen Haggerty (GECDC) and Anita Perkins (MIT Libraries)**
Thursday, April 9; 3-4:30 PM; Room 14N-132
 - Town Hall Meeting: State of the Job Market with Melanie Parker, Executive Director of the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)**
Tuesday, April 14; 7:00-8:30 PM; Room 4-237
 - Negotiating Job Offers in a Tough Economy, Presented by a Panel of MIT Employers**
April 23, 3:30-5:30 PM, Room 4-149
- SPRING CAREER FAIR 2009**—The first annual "Just in Time" career fair provides employers a unique opportunity to connect with MIT students close to the end of the academic year. In addition to companies that traditionally recruit on campus, we have specifically targeted smaller companies and non-profit organizations. The event is completely booked with over 40 companies registered.
Tuesday April 28, 2009, 11:00 AM -4:00 PM, Morss Hall 50-140
- Career Planning Services**
 - Walk-in advising (M, Th, F: 12-2 PM, Tu: 11 AM-1 PM, W: 1-3 PM) and Career counseling by appointment
 - Career Assessments, including the Strong Interest Inventory and Myers Briggs Type Indicator
 - Career resources, including a free Career Development Handbook, online information (e.g. WetFeet) and print materials
- Employment Preparation**
 - Mock interviews, resume and cover letter review, internship and job search planning

- Employment Search Services**
 - Registration on CareerBridge, MIT's online career management system
 - On-campus recruiting
 - Internship and job postings
 - Spring and Federal Job Fairs
 - iNet (internship posting consortium of schools)

Resources and Strategies

I want to close with a top ten list of "guerilla tactics" on how to survive and thrive in this challenging job market.

- Start with a Solid Plan.** How can you find your job if you don't know what you're seeking and why? Good career planning includes self assessment, research on career options that mesh well with your unique self, a knowledge of job search techniques, effective decision-making and development of contingency plans. GECDC can help you with your plans.
- Develop a Two-Minute Drill.** Be prepared to share your plan and your background, qualifications and goals quickly, to take advantage of networking opportunities during receptions, elevator rides, e-mails and telephone calls.
- It's All About the Network.** Building and maintaining professional networking relationships are even more critical than ever before for success in hiring and retention. Employers are using professional networking websites and faculty to identify talent. Share your plans with your current network, including family, friends, parents of friends, former employers, alumni and faculty. They can help by providing information and sharing their insight and expertise on their career field and industry as well as suggestions for additional contacts. Send thank you notes and be prepared to return the favor—networking works best if there is mutual benefit.
- Conduct Information Interviews.** Information interviewing with contacts in a prospective career field, company or geographic area is a proven method to increase your knowledge and network. Be sure to ask them for advice, support and additional contacts, which most individuals will readily provide, and not for a job.
- Be Persistent.** Finding a job takes considerable time. Follow up on leads and stay in touch with recruiters, even if they've turned you down. In this volatile economy things can change quickly. Be patient and persistent. To land a job, you will have to work hard and remain steadfast throughout this difficult period.
- Take Advantage of MIT Resources.** Talk to your department, use the ICAN network (see: alum.mit.edu), reconnect with programs in which you participated, such as UPOP, MISTI or F/ASIP.
- Be Flexible and Focused.** Broaden the number of fields you are considering and apply for plenty of positions but research fields thoroughly so you can present a compelling rationale for your interest to employers.
- Use a Targeted Approach.** Blanketing companies or responding to online postings with generic letters addressed to no one in particular has less than a .1% chance of success of resulting in an offer. Research geographic areas or industries to identify potential companies and rank the companies. Expend the most energy on your top prospects, conducting research and information interviews and using multiple means to get in for an interview with the decision-maker.
- Reach Out to Smaller, Start-Up, and Non-Traditional Employers.** In this economy, smaller and more nimble organizations are often better able to change direction and react quickly to the need for talent. These employers are not as visible on campus and their opportunities do not materialize synchronously with the academic year. Because they're leaner, it is also easier to access the individual who has the power to hire.
- Consider "Stop-Out" Strategies, Including an Internship or Short-Term Work Experience.** Don't just wait the market out, use the time to "get your foot in the door," to build skills or to meet other life goals. Stop-out strategies can include internships, volunteer work, temporary or contract employment, job shadowing, specialized training, graduate education, or an experience abroad.

For more information on any of these topics or resources, please visit our office, website, or attend one of the seminars or programs featured above. We are committed to helping you realize your career goals and wish you the best in your search.

Sincerely,

Melanie Parker, Executive Director
Global Education and Career Development Center
12-170 ♦ <http://careers.mit.edu/>



Babson Wins Cricket Tournament

Cricket, from Page 16

won the toss and expectedly batted first; they posted a great total of 78 in 12 overs. Blue suffered an early loss of their best batsman in the first over of the chase. However, the moment brought out the best in the leadership of the Blues, with captain Ankur Sinha G and vice-captain Vivek Jaiswal G playing match-winning roles. After their dismissal leading to a few nervous overs, MIT Blue slid over the finishing line. The match reinvigorated the tournament, and symbolized a victory for the MIT Cricket Club as a whole.

At the end of the first round, three teams, Babson College, MIT Green, and MIT Blue shared the top spot with 4 wins and 1 loss each. To decide which teams would advance to the finals, the organizers had to resort to calculating the Net Run Rate, determined by formulae based on the number of runs conceded, the number of runs scored, number of balls faced, and the number of balls bowled in all the matches.

The finals of the tournament were a best of three match-up between MIT Green and Babson College.

Babson entered the contest as the pre-tournament favorites. Moreover, owing to injury to key players, MIT Green faced an uphill task in countering Babson's arsenal of pace and power.

The best-of-three finals format was designed to identify the truly better outfit among the competing teams, rewarding lasting consistency over fortuitous moments. Babson made full use of their acquired advantage of batting first in both finals by posting huge scores that eventually wore down MIT Green's batsmen. They posted a record score of 94 runs in their allotted 12 overs, courtesy their premier hitters, Ronak Singh and Vishal Mehta. In reply, MIT Green had one man, Ishaan Chugh '12, taking on an entire battery of fast bowlers. Through

Ishaan's exquisite strokeplay, and the indomitable spirits of a few others, MIT Green slashed and hustled their way to within 12 runs of Babson's total, thereby playing their part in the highest scoring match of the tournament, and delivering a fitting finale.

The second final, played on the immediate wake of the first, followed a very similar script, with Babson's batsmen posting a handy score of 75 that proved too much for MIT Green once Babson dislodged Chugh early. Although MIT Green reached a respectable total of 61 in 12 overs, the tournament belonged to Babson, the deserving candidates.

The tournament had several unique features owing largely to its indoor venue. Because of this, boundaries had to be determined, standards such as leg before wicket (LBW) dismissals and leg-bye runs had to be modified, and special rules had to be outlined for cases such as the ball hitting the ceiling. The taped tennis ball that was used in the tournament is characteristic of the MIT Cricket Club. The standard cricket ball, made of leather, is not used since it bounces too high on the surface and can injure players with its hardness and bounce. The organizers chose taped tennis balls after experimenting with many different kinds of balls.

The MIT Cricket Club plans organize more events in the future and hopes to involve more people in cricket at MIT. According to Sinha, president of the MIT Cricket Club, "The goal of the club now is to provide a healthy ambience for cricket, and provide opportunities for cricket enthusiasts to learn the game. The club would also hold bilateral cricket series with clubs and universities in the area. It is spring time, and during summer, we will be moving outdoors to play cricket on the turf."

Chugh, the highest scorer of the tournament as well as a member of the squash team, says that "the tournament was a refreshing change from

the phenomenal academic life that MIT has to offer."

Senior members of the club recognize that the tournament would not have been possible without the vision and efforts of President Sinha and Jaiswal, the other lead organizer. They hope now to hand over the organization of tournaments to the younger talent at MIT, creating opportunities for the young, motivated cricketers at MIT.

The MIT Cricket Club is also undertaking ventures such as free cricket lessons to get more people from the MIT community excited about the sport that they spent their childhood playing.

Wellings, Charpentier, Zhou, and Cummings Smash League Records

Swimming, from Page 16

overall in the consolation final.

MIT capped its season with an amazing effort in the 400 free relay. Once again smashing school and league records, the unit of Jeffrey Y. Zhou '10, Cummings, Peter J. Wellings '09, and Charpentier swam to a time of 3:01.89. Finishing third

in the consolation final, Zhou ignited the relay with a lead-off leg of 47.07. Wellings split 45.56, while Cummings (44.45) and Charpentier (44.71) were both under the 45-second mark as the Engineers improved the existing Institute record by two seconds after breaking the previous mark by two seconds at the 2009 NEWMAC Championships.

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Tuesday

April 7, 2009

7pm - 9pm

Bldg 66, Rm. 110

COME AND SEE HOW FAR YOU CAN GO

SPORTS

Six Teams Compete in Second MIT Cricket Club Tournament

By Radhika Malik
STAFF REPORTER

Even though cricket is played or followed by more than a billion people all over the world, Boston has not seen much of it. Thanks to the MIT Cricket Club, which organized its second cricket tournament at MIT from March 14 to March 29, MIT became center stage for some exciting rounds of cricket. The tournament was the club's first ever indoor tournament,

with matches held in the Johnson Athletic Center. It was sponsored by the Students Activities Office, the Office of the Dean for Graduate Education, and the International Students Organization. The success of the previous tournament caused several universities and clubs in the New England area to express interest in cricket at MIT. The inaugural indoor tournament had six teams competing: Yale University, Boston University, Babson College, the Burlington Cricket Club, and two

teams from MIT — the MIT Green team and the MIT Blue team. The tournament was divided into two rounds: the first round was in the round-robin format, where each team played each of the others once. On the basis of the points from this first round, the top two teams were to qualify for the finals. Each match was of twelve overs per innings, each side consisted of nine players.

Right from the start, the matches were extremely close. In the first match of the tournament, MIT Blue defeated BU by a margin of just 9 runs. The second match, MIT Green vs. Babson, was equally thrilling, with MIT emerging victorious by 12 runs. The two closest matches of the tournament were MIT Green vs. BU, and MIT Blue vs. MIT Green. MIT Green won the former by two runs having to defend a score of 65.

The latter concluded with a heart-stopping last ball finish, in which MIT Blue finally won by 2 wickets. In this match, owing to MIT Green's unexpected conquest of Babson and MIT Blue's collapse against the same foes, the match represented a literal knock-out bout for the Blues. MIT Green

Game of the Week

Men's Swimming and Diving Ninth at 2009 NCAA Championship

By James Kramer
DAPER STAFF

With numerous outstanding performances, MIT men's swimming and diving capped the 2008-09 season with its highest finish at the NCAA Championships in 27 years. The men finished ninth overall in the team standings, while the women's team also closed out the year with a pair of solid swims.

The Engineers enjoyed their second-best finish ever at the national meet, and their highest finish since taking seventh in 1982. Kenyon College scored 604 points en route to its 30th consecutive NCAA title.

Rookie Timothy J. Stumbaugh '12 authored the evening's biggest highlight as he set new Institute and conference records in the 200 back en route to All-American honors. Stumbaugh split a sensational 1:50.09 while finishing sixth in the championship final.

The Engineers received another record-breaking effort in the 100 free as Luke R. Cummings '10 eclipsed teammate Laurent Charpentier's '09 recent standard with a swim of 44.89 during prelims. Cummings split 44.97 at night to finish third in the consolation final. Charpentier missed finals in the 100 after swimming 45.56.

Amy E. Jacobi '11 closed out her sophomore season with a time of 53.23 in the 100 free. She missed finals, as did senior Nicole M. O'Keeffe '09, although O'Keeffe delivered a personal record with a terrific swim of 17:33.07 in the mile. Michael J. Dobson '11 swam the mile for the men's unit, finishing in 16:05.83 during trials.

After ripping off a marvelous swim in the 100 breast the evening before, Rastislav Racz '10 was unable to equal the magic in the 200. Swimming a season-best 2:03.35 in prelims, Racz split 2:03.44 at night to close seventh

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Swimming, Page 15



Alexandra Wright '11 jukes in and out of the opposing defense on her way to the goal at the women's lacrosse match versus Gordon College on Thursday. The Engineers won 18-9.

The Tech's Athlete of the Week:
Julia Zimmerman '09

In a magnificent ending to a remarkable collegiate career, senior star gymnast Julia C. Zimmerman '09 won the all-round competition for the second time in three years at the prestigious National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) championship hosted by Hamline University this past weekend. Zimmerman, who also won the crown in 2007, is just the second woman in 25 years to twice win the NCGA all-around title.

On Friday, she scored a 38.275 among the four events, registering a 9.600 on the vault, a 9.450 on the bars, a 9.625 on the beam, and a 9.600 on the floor. With the top 14 competitors in each event advancing to the individual event finals on Saturday, Zimmerman also won the vault championship, scoring a 9.775 and was named the NCGA outstanding senior, as voted by the member coaches and considered to be the most prominent award presented by the association. It marks the second consecutive season and seventh overall — two more than any other member school — that an MIT senior has won the award, as Sophia L. Harrison '08 took the honor last year.

Earning three more First Team All-American honors for finishing in the top six in the vault, beam, and bars, Zimmerman became a career-wise 14-time All-American, tying her for first place in the 25-year history of the NCGA.

Leanna S. Morinishi '12, meanwhile, placed 10th in the all-round with a score of 36.925 and sixth on the beam at 9.425, earning First Team All American honors as a freshman.

Katie M. Mingo '10 also competed and scored a solid 8.625 on the beam.

The event featured seven schools in the team competition and individual specialists from eight additional institutions. MIT missed out qualifying as a team by just 0.25 of a point, after finishing a strong fourth out of eight teams at the recent ECAC Division III Championship.

—Mike Stoller, DAPER Staff

Robin Shin Places 22nd at NCAA Championship

Rookie Robin S. Shin '12 posted five victories en route to a 22nd-place finish in sabre at the NCAA Fencing National Championship held this past weekend at Pennsylvania State University. As a team, MIT tied for 24th place for the second year in a row, this time sharing the ranking with Vassar College.

In her first appearance at the national level, Shin topped Division I foes Kamali Thompson (Temple University), Alicia Trigeiro (University of California, San Diego), Alexandra Heiss (Cornell University), and Eva Jellison (Stanford University) in addition to Alyxandra Mattison of Division III New York University.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Men's Gymnastics
Finishes Fifth at USAG
Championship

The MIT men's gymnastics team kicked off its postseason run with a fifth-place finish at the USA

Gymnastics Collegiate National Championship this past weekend at the College of William & Mary. In the individual event finals, Jacob T. Shapiro '11 finished fourth (14.350) on the rings while Boris Rasin '09 placed three spots behind him with a score of 13.800. On the high bar, Brett S. Lazarus '12 ranked seventh with a mark of 13.200.

In the all-around, Lazarus led the Engineers with a seventh-place finish (79.750) as Rasin finished right behind him (79.450). Shapiro captured 10th place with a total of 79.050 while Thomas S. Caldwell '09 ranked 15th (74.900).

MIT's best showing was on the rings with Shapiro recording a mark of 14.550; the Engineers amassed a team score of 55.850. Shapiro registered his second team-leading performance on the vault with a mark of 14.150 as the squad posted a score of 55.450. Lazarus' tally of 14.000 on the high bar helped power the Engineers to a team score of 52.450. Rasin paced MIT on the floor exercise with a score of 13.350 while the Engineers amassed a team total of 51.850.

On the parallel bars Rasin and Shapiro both received a 12.950, propelling the team to a mark of 49.200. Lazarus led the way on the pommel horse with a score of 12.850 as the Engineers compiled a total of 48.500.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

SCOREBOARD

Baseball	
Tuesday, March 31, 2009	
MIT (9-6)	8
Brandeis University (10-11)	2
Thursday, April 2, 2009	
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (14-8)	4
MIT (10-6)	7

Women's Lacrosse	
Thursday, April 2, 2009	
Gordon College (3-4)	9
MIT (4-3)	18

Softball	
Tuesday, March 31, 2009	
MIT (3-9)	3
Clark University (8-13)	4
Men's Tennis	
Tuesday, March 31, 2009	
Salem State College (0-1)	0
MIT (6-1)	9

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 3, 2009
Men's Tennis vs. The College of New Jersey
Men's Volleyball vs. Vassar College

4 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts
6 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Saturday, April 4, 2009
Men's Heavyweight Crew Alumni Cup
Softball vs. Springfield College
Softball vs. Springfield College
Men's Volleyball NECVA Championship Tournament

9 a.m., Charles River
12 p.m., Briggs Field
2 p.m., Briggs Field
All Day, Rockwell Cage and duPont Gymnasium

Sunday, April 4, 2009
Men's Volleyball NECVA Championship Tournament

All Day, Rockwell Cage and duPont Gymnasium

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